# NOTES AND COMMENT OF THE MUSIC WORLD

# A SUMMING UP OF NEVIN'S LIFE

Portrays to the World the Personality of the Composer.

By GRENVILLE YERNON. the first five or six. His was not a talent of heaven-storming power, nor did it plumb the depths of spiritual suffering. In it there was neither consuming passion nor philosophic reflection. It was not for him to prove the New World's musical Whitman, to sweep away the miasmic vapors rising was still a schoolboy he says:

wow world's musical Whitman, to sweep away the miasmic vapors rising from a decadent civilization. Neither in mind nor in body was he of the stuff that conquers the will of man, yet withal he was one of the sweetest and sincerest singers of his day. In The Tribune for January 16, 188, James Huneker wrote a review of Mr. Nevin's concert in Madison Square Garden Concert Hall, and in his review gave a criticism of the composer's work which may well stand as the final word.

WORDS OF MR. HUNEKER.

This was Mr. Huneker's review:

After some preliminary hitches Mr. Nevin's concert in the hall of Madison, Square Garden got unforter on. The audience, composed chiefly of women, was evidently bent on doing gracious homase to Mr. Nevin's hyrical gifts, so there was applause in profusion and the rather amateurish singing did not review. The scheme of music was a long one, chiefly songs interrupted by some piano pleces, a couple of violin numbers and a serenata trio for strings and piano. Mr. Nevin is a native of Hitsburgh, was of the middle of the strings and piano. Mr. Nevin is a native of Hitsburgh, was for what he seem of music was a long one, chiefly songs interrupted by some piano pleces, a couple of violin numbers and a serenata trio for strings and piano. Mr. Nevin is a native of Hitsburgh, was for what he means the profound he has a sense of pretty color and agreeable rhythms. His touch being musical and exquisitely light in purling passage work. But the note of virility is absent, and in work of more extended compass his power of development is not what he will be some the profound he would be some the profound he would be some that the work of the world was work with interest his unquestionable and in such specimens as "Middle, wir bithits" "When the Land was White with Moonlight." In a Bower and above all avoid the speciment is not what he would be some heautiful than his? We prove the power of development is not work of the profound has been at this some world with a sune world with a sune world with a sune wor

Vance Thompson ness of his friend's nature, its nalve charm, its almost feminine delicacy. The "Life" is largely made up of Nevin's own letters, and no better method could have been adopted for the unveiling of the composer's gentle nature. In fact, in his letters, as in his music, are displayed a very genuine if slender talent-a whimsical originality which Mr. Huneker has very aptly compared to that of Chaminade. In fact, throughout his life the feminine element was uppermost in Ethel-A MONG the very few creative musical mean explanation of the astonishing popularity of the composer of "Narcissus" and "The Reserv" in a country and a bert Nevin's art, in itself perhaps no and "The Rosary" in a country and a century so largely dominated by woman.

### A SIMPLE, RELIGIOUS SPIRIT.

Of the simplicity of his character and of its informing religious spirit practically

thunderbolt." Not surely the credo of a IT IS TRIBUTE, NOT CRITICISM. soul seared with the flaming iron of ex-"The Life of Ethelbert Nevin," by perience, a credo neither very deep nor Vance Thompson, recently published by very solemn; rather the outburst of a soul the Boston Music Company, will never whose delicate, almost feminine, sensibilstand as a definite criticism of either the ity had been rudely shocked by a vision man or his work. It is frankly a tribute of things as they are, and who had fled the merits and defects of such a parentage. Yet in it Mr. Thompson has most

The merits and defects of such a parentage. Yet in it Mr. Thompson has most

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The merits and defects of such a parentage and the merits and defects of such a parentby the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the piano and vocal students of the such as the programme was given by the piano and vocal students of the program



MR. and MRS. ETHELBERT NEVIN

died at thirty-eight, perhaps because the | The two best known compositions of

and the wings drooped forever. Mr. Thompson has sympathetically followed his career from his birth near Pittsburgh on November 25, 1862, to his But the man who wrote "Na B. J. Lang, are fully treated, as are his student days in Berlin, and his happy marriage to Miss Anne Paul. In his letters there is surprisingly little of his musical ideas, though a note in his diary,

equally opened ears. He writes:

written in 1891 during his stay in Paris,

shows that he looked upon things with

wide opened eyes and heard them with

does not scorch, but warms. Alas, if it had only been a sun which could have vitalized the composer's own life! He lits own masters.

The last monthly pupils' recital of the

sun, as is a peasant singer of Sicily. His Steinert Hall, Boston, in February, 1898, was an essentially sophisticated nature and, as Mr. Thompson says, is to-day which lived in a northern land, and yet did sung in almost every language, and has not realize that around him for four-fifth; journeyed round the world and round Of "Narcissus" Mr. Thompson of the year raged snow and bitter storms. again. To these storms he trusted his butterfly writes:
wings, and, for a while, his fancy kept "Nevin himself always considered it wings, and, for a while, his fancy kept

him warm. Then the storms prevailed, one of his trivial compositions, and it was invariably with a sort of whimsical amusement that he saw himself described as

But the man who wrote "Narcissus" death in New Haven on February 17, and "The Rosary" Ethelbert Nevin re-Each chapter is devoted to phases mains to-day. Many of his other songs of the composer, and each takes its title are still sung and some of his composifrom one of his compositions. His early tions still are played. But these two restudies in Boston, under his first master, main the foundation stones of his fame.

### At Music Studios.

a well attended recital at the Y. W. C. | Christine A. Hall in 15th st. last Friday evening. Leimdorfer and Ora Loomis Keeler.

rain and the winds of the world had never beaten down upon him and hardened him. For he was not a child of the was first sung by Francis Rogers in Chamber Music Hall and was attended by a large and appreciative audience. The programme consisted of songs and teacher, one of the leading exponents cluding, Mina Curtis, Mae Scheer, Nell in Carnegie Hall, and at 63 West 50th Donohue, Helen Meseritz and Henrietta st., has had one of her busiest seasons. Lucille Baker, planist pupil of Frederic Dixon, played pieces by Heller and MacDowell which were well reat ther home in Winchester, Mass. As gramme by playing a Brahms rhapsodle resuming their lessons the middle of and Hinton's "Etude Arabesque." Mr. September, Miss Baker will open her "Pagliacci" and "Aida." Alice Darragh Dixon played all the accompaniments in studios at that time, instead of on the and Mrs. P. B. Parsons, also pupils of

> Anne Stevenson, teacher of singing, studio at Carnegie Hall, announces a L. Becker was given on Saturday after-summer session from June 1 to July noon May 23, at the Country Life Ex-

Some of the pupils of the pianist and pedagogue William C. Rehm appeared in Comique. They are Martha A. Krambach, Harold S. Clickner. Mrs. Grace D. Bell, fore and after opera season; Jeann the pedagogue William C. Rehm appeared in Comique. They are Martha A. Krambach, Harold S. Clickner. Mrs. Grace D. Bell, fore and after opera season; Jeann the property of the pianist and pedagogue William C. Rehm appeared in Comique. They are Martha A. Krambach, Harold S. Clickner. Mrs. Grace D. Bell, fore and after opera season; Jeann the pianist and pedagogue William C. Rehm appeared in Comique. They are Martha A. Krambach, Harold S. Clickner. Mrs. Grace D. Bell, fore and after opera season; Jeann the pianist and pedagogue William C. Rehm appeared in Comique. Mueller, Malvine Eleanor

av., Brooklyn, on Monday evening, May

18. Among those who took part were
the following: Esther Broberg, Vera
Friendland, Elsie Cuming, Francis A.
Teta, Lulu Distler, Gerirude Ronnenberg,
Mollie Kubert, Edna Meinken, Bertha K.
Feitner, Christine Heingartner, Vivian
Meihado and Katherine Maguire. Carl
Fiqué nad Katherine Noack Fiqué played
the accompaniments.

Naville is coaching daily at the Garrigue
studios until Mme. Garrigue salls for Europe.

A pupils' recital was given by Edwin
Johnson, teacher of singing, in his studio
at 489 Quincy st., Brocklyn, last Tuesday
evening. Those taking part were as
follows: Mrs. Frances P. Lewis, soprano; Mrs. Florence Health

The third Annual Musical Evening by pupils of F. W. Riesberg took place at his surburban residence, at the Woman's Institute, Yonkers, May 25, Percy Hemus. Institute, Yonkers, May 25, Percy Hemus, arytone, assisting. A large audience being to the pupils' playing of works to planists: Dorothy Andrews, Ruth Ay, Alice Casey, Ethel J. Hall, James Rie Clarke, Florence Munch, James Rie Clarke, Florence Munch, last Monday evening as a closure of the state of the Florence Gwynne and Helen Corwin. It last Monday evening as a closing of the was announced that a free and a partial year's work. Hazel Ogden as "Julies" scholarship would be awarded as usual and Ruth Cunning as the "Nurse" opened the coming September.

announces a special summer session for teachers and students, at his Steinway Hall Studios, 109 East 14th st., beginning from June 1 to August 7.

Max Wellerson, teacher of plane and formerly assistant to Dr. William Mason, has removed his school to No. 180 St.

Favorable comments have been passed upon the recitals of the pupils of Mrs. . M. Virgil, director of the Virgil Piano School, 42 West 76th st., now on a tour through the East. In Philadelphia, Cinall well attended. Mrs. Virgil illustrates building, 1425 Broadway, until August 1, her method by means of technical illustrations. During the rest of the tour, the Virgil annils will be a second of the second of cinnati and Pittsburgh, the concerts were Virgil pupils will cover St. Louis, Chicago, Cleveland, Buffalo and several other

A recital was given by the students of the Lachmund Conservatory of Music, of which Lewis M. Hubbard is the direcstant. Witness the titles of his works:
"Apple Blossoms," "Stars of the Summer Night," "Everywhere, Everywhere, Christmas Tonight," "Valzer Gentile," "A Twilight," "Valzer Gentile," "A Twilight," "Narcissus," "The Rosary," In all, he is a child of a sun that a property of the summer of the summe Bryan, Master Theodore Palmenberg, Mrs. Gilbert, Miss Bessie Kirby, Miss Elleen MacFarlane, Mr. Marnie, Master Gustav Dohrenwend, Miss Harrison, Miss Dickinson, Master Henry Dohrenwend, Mrs. Coger, Miss Ruth Smith, Master Otto Dohrenwend, Mr. Archambault and Miss Glaser.

> Alice Hutchins Baker, pianist and tino will shortly sail for Europe. of the Leschetizky school, with studios Miss Baker will close her studios on June a number of her pupils are desirous of first of October, as in the past.

A piano recital by the pupils of Gustav noon May 23, at the Country Life Exposition in the Grand Central Terminal Exposition. The pupils who took part to May; George Hamlin, January to May; to February 15; Leo Slezak, January 15; Leo Sleza poser, conductor and coach of singers, have been engaged for the Dippel Court soprano, was the assisting artist.

Figué Musical Institute, of 128 DeKalb engaged at the Hotel Clarendon for a series av., Brooklyn, on Monday evening, May of Sunday evening sacred concerts. Miss

Miss Margaret Martin, soprano; Donald Gerstenberger, tenor; Miss Edith Kingsland, contraito; Miss Marie Kaiser, contralto; Miss Gladys Van Why, contraito; Howard Riley, bass; Chas, A.

the programme. The only music came in the number of Oscar Wilde's "The Happy Gustav L. Becker, planist and teacher, Prince," interpreted by Louise Dickson, accompanied by Harry Oliver Hint,

> Claude Warford, tenor, was soloist at the annual concert given May 20 by the New Haven String Orchestra, College Street Hall. The orchestra, under the direction of Isadore Trostwyk, gave an interesting programme by modern com-posers. Mr. Warford's numbers were Vedi's "Celeste Alda," and a group of songs by Strauss, Parker and Hallett Gilberte. As an encore to the group ha sang Willeby's "Call to London." Warford continues his classes in voice teaching in the Metropolitan Opera House

The thirteenth annual Commencement and graduation exercises of the Gullmant Organ School, under the direction of Dr. William C. Carl, will be held to-morrow evening, at 8 o'clock, in the First Presbyterian Church, 5th av. and 12th

### Musical Entertainments.

Umberto Sorrentino, the Italian tenor, keeps busy filling engagements. On May 15 he sang in the Margaret Hotel, Brooklyn; May 16, at Firemen's Hall, Sparkill, N. Y., and on May 20 at the inauguration concert of the Eastern Symphony Orchestra of Easton, Pa.; May 26, he sang at Tarrytown in a joint concert with Christian Kriens, the violinist. Mr. Sorren-

A reception in honor of Adolfo Jimenez, the former operatic tenor, was given by Susannah Macaulay at the residence of Mrs. Richmond, 109 West 68th st. on Saturday May 16. The music was greatly enjoyed by all present. Victorine Hayes, soprano and pupit of Miss Macaulay, Miss Macaulay, assisted.

Haensel and Jones, concert directors of Acolian Hall, announce the following artists for 1914-15: Carl Flesch, Janu-Metropolitan Opera season; Arthur Mid-dleton, Metropolitan Opera Company, be-Gerville-Reache, Christine Miller, Arthur Shattuck, Grace Kerns, Maude Klott, Esperanza Garrigue's artist pupil Jean Mary Hissem de Moss, Nina Dimitrieff,

# Matters of Interest to Members of Women's Clubs

# Woman's Forum Elects Delegates to Chi Grace Thompson Moore, Mrs. Helen Manning, Miss Geraldyne Bergh and Miss Lessing, Miss Gerelet, M Install Officers.

Woman's Forum Closes Season.

The Woman's Forum closed its season on Friday with a luncheon at the Claremont. This is an annual function, given honor of the president, Miss Helen The souvenirs were Varick Boswell. photographs of Miss Boswell and Mrs. iam L. Sneed; international representaphotographs of Many Annual Properties of the August 1987 of the August Brown boy and a brunette little girl.

the Woman's Forum at the blennial con- Franklin H. Sargent, Otis Skinner, Miss Reception for Miss Fay. vention of the General Federation of Amelia Bingham, Ben Greet, Charles Women's Clubs, to be held in Chicago Rann Kennedy; committee on the ethics June 9 to 18. Miss Boswell is chairman of of the drama, Dr. Francis Rolt Wheeler. the political science committee of the J. Herman Randall, Dr. Joseph Silver- 21. The Woman's Philharmonic Society, General Federation, and has the pro- man, Dr. Thomas R. Slicer, Dr. James gramme for the evening of June 12. Mrs. gramme for the evening of June 12. Mrs. B. Wasson, Dr. Merle St. Croix Wright, twelve years, presented her with a Carrie Chapman Catt will speak on "The Dr. Frank Oliver Hall, Dr. Newell Dwight lorgnette chain. There were vocal solos World Progress of Women.'

### Theatre Club Honors President.

The Theatre Club, Inc., met on Tuesday, May 26, in the north ballroom of the Hotel Astor. Officers were installed by Miss Florence Guernsey, president New York City Federation of Women's Clubs. Mrs. J. Christopher Marks, the president, was presented with a sapphire and diaond ring, the gift of the members of The presentation was made by little Miss Joyce Fair. The programme included violin solos by

Miss Flora Bridges; songs by Mrs. Denman Thompson; scene from "The Dumby Miss Joyce Fair and Ernest Truex; contralto solo, by Mme, Kate Rooney, of the Royal Opera House, Co vent Garden; two scenes from "Things That Count," by Miss Florine Arnoid, Miss Hilda Hellstrom, Miss Grace Dougherty, Miss Maxine E. Hicks, Nick Long, and Miss Alice Lindahl.

Among the guests of honor were Miss Joyce Fair, Ernest Truex, Miss Florine Arnold, Miss Alice Lindahl, Miss Jessie Graham, Miss Katherine Brook, Miss Florence Guernsey, Mrs. Edwin Arden and Mrs. Denman Thompson.

home of Mrs. George Beavers Tuesday,

The annual al fresco meeting of the al American Playgoers was held at the home

who declined to be re-elected for the seventh time to the office of president, to accept the office of honorary life presi-

ernors of the club are as follows: Madison Bass; honorary president, John RECHLIN CONCERT Organist.
De Witt Warner; president, Alfred H. RECHLIN 16 East 88th 8t.

tary, Mrs. Jose Haws Awtry; recorder, Robert Johnston Landone; treasurer, James Madison Bass; auditor, Dr. Will- "Une Soiree Bakst." Miss Boswell, Mrs. Roy Emery Fletcher board, William C. De Mille, Wilton Lac- 57th st. and Mrs. William Riggs will represent aye. Miss Edith Wynne Matthison, B. Wasson, Dr. Merle St. Croix Wright, Hillis, Dr. Alfred W. Martin and Dr. Henry Townsend Scudder.

### Professional Woman's League.

The Professional Woman's League held

its annual reception at the clubrooms, 1999 Broadway, Monday evening, May 25. The

sponding secretary, Mrs. Louise Campbell Brooklyn, was chairman for the after-Stern; trustees for two years, Mrs. Adah noon. The entertainment following the

president, Miss Maida Craigen, installed with the annual club luncheon at the the following officers: Recording secrethe following officers: Recording secre-tary, Mrs. Frances H. Abrahall; corre-brose H. White, of 61 Pierrepont st., Johnson Shartle, Miss Kate Wilson, Mrs. luncheon opened with a vocal solo by Russell Bassett, Mrs. Charles Ritchie, Miss Adelaide Gilley, of Manhattan, ac-Mrs. Muriel Stone Coombs, Mrs. Corse companied by Mrs. Hoyt A. Moore, of Payton, Mrs. Pauline W. de Lisser, Miss Brooklyn. Dr. Robert W. McLaughlin,

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solos by Miss Holen Hulsman, read-ings from his own poems by Charles School Plant." Then followed a song by Ben Greet, Edwin Markham, Dr. Martha Keeler, with harp accompaniment by Miss Bertha Giles, of Manhattan, accom-Foote Crow, the Rev. Dr. James B. Was- Miss Lucille Folsom, and songs by Miss panied by Mrs. Moore; Mrs. Ambrose H. son and Mrs. Lottie Blair Parker; secretary, Mrs. Jose Haws Awtry; recorder, Hugo Hirsch.

Miss Lucille Folsom, and songs by Miss White read a short sketch, "Gentlemen's Night," written for the occasion by Mrs.

large, Mme. Harriet Labadie; advisory Soirce Bakst," at their studio, 20 West

was held at the home of Mrs. De Vivo, 68 West 91st st., on Thursday evening, May of which Miss Fay has been president for by Mme. Lete-Doux Lusk and plano selections by Miss Fay and Miss Margaret Read.

Maine Women Close Season.

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There will be a garden party at the long of Mrs. George Beavers Tuesday, "The boy that Tickles the Plane" with all the latest dance music, Tangoes, axizes. Hesitations, etc. Music furnished for ll occasions. Call or write. 15-A W. 99th St. Tel. 2452 Riverside.

American Playgoers was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. W. Wellington Massee, in Lawrence Park, Bronxville.

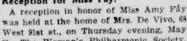
A resolution was introduced by Mrs.

Jose Haws Awtry and unanimously adopted, to ask Mrs. James Madison Bass.

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The Maine Women's Club of New York closed its season on Saturday, May 16.

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4 Fri. Acollan Hall, N. Y. C. VIRGIL GORDON Plano Instruction. HENRIETTA SPEKE-SEELEY.

Tatterson. The principal speaker of the afternoon was Miss Mary Snow, of the On Friday evening, May 22 Miss Mar- Intercollegiate Bureau of Occupations, whose subject was "The Part Women The officers of the club for the coming

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Grace Thompson Moore, Mrs. Helen Man- pastor of the Park Slope Church, spoke N. J.; second vice-president, Mrs. W. L. | lecture on "Beautiful Ceylon," by Mr. | E. Hutchins; directors, Mrs. H. B. Tillotsolos by Mme. Lillian Birmingham, piano Greenwich Village Settlement House, gave Portland av., Brooklyn; auditor, Miss

### Reception for Presidents.

A tea was held for the New York City Federation of Women's Clubs, Miss Florence Guernsey, president, and the various club presidents of greater New York, last Wednesday afternoon at the Country Life Permanent Exposition, in the Grand Central Terminal.

A good programme was presented in the season are: President, Mrs. John W. Sar- lecture hall, consisting of a concert by West 181st st.; first vice-presi- the Aeolian company, assisted by Miss MUSICAL INSTRUCTION.

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## At a meeting held at the Biltmore Hotel

Thursday afternoon, May 14, the Michigan Women in New York elected the following officers: President, Mrs. Stanley Lyman Otis; vice-presidents, Mrs. John Jay Bush, Mrs. William G. Hamilton, Mrs. Clarence A. Fullerton; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Charles Finsilver; recording secretary, Miss Louise Streeter Warren; treasurer, Mrs. John W. Weadock; his-

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anhattan, N. Y. (Carnegie Hall); Newark J. (College of Music), to July 17th; Co-mbus, Ohlo, July 20th, 3 weeks (St. Mary's ademy). Address either of these centres full information.

### Hold Strawberry Festival.

The Woman's Auxiliary to the Rescue Work of the Salvation Army, Mrs. William Grant Brown, president, held an oldfashioned strawberry festival and singing bee on Friday afternoon, May 22, at the home, 318 East 15th st. The entertain-

ment was in charge of Mrs. Minnie L. torian, Mrs. C. T. Rider; auditor, Mrs. H. Pancoast and Mrs. Edith F. Ranger. MUSICAL INSTRUCTION. ELINOR COMSTOCK MUSIC SCHOOL

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